Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

A CALENDAR.

OCTOBER.

1st.

2nd.

3rd.

4th.—Death of St. Francis of Assisi, 1226. Read his own hymn—

"By Brother Wind, my Lord, Thy praise is said
By air and cloud, and the blue sky o'erhead
By which Thy creatures all are kept and fed.

By one most humble, useful, precious, chaste,
By Sister Water, O my Lord, Thou art praised.

And praised is my Lord
By Brother Fire—he who lights up the night,
Jocund, robust is he, and strong and bright.

Praised art thou, my Lord, by Mother Earth,
Thou who sustainest her, and governest,
And to her flowers, fruit, herbs dost colour give and birth."

And Longfellow's Sermon of St. Francis in "Birds of Passage."

5th.

6th.—Jenny Lind born 1821. Read—

"I am not glad with that mean vanity
Which knows no good beyond its appetite
Full feasting upon praise! I am only glad
Being praised for what I know is worth the praise:
Glad of the proof that I myself have part
In what I worship! at the last applause—
Seeming a roar of tropic winds that tossed
The handkerchiefs and many-coloured flowers,
Falling like shattered rainbows all around—
Think you I felt myself a *prima donna*?
No, but a happy spiritual star
Such as old Dante saw, wrought in a rose

Of light in Paradise, whose only self
Was consciousness of glory wide-diffused,
Music, life, power—I moving in the midst
With a sublime necessity of good."

"*Armgart*" by George Eliot.

7th.

8th.

9th.—St. Denis. Add verse to hymn as above.

Now praise we for St. Denis, the patron saint of France
His name their ancient warcry when armies did advance.
Lord, grant us peace and amity, and teach all men to see
That nations drawn together, draw nearer unto Thee.

10th.

11th.

12th.

13th.—Edward the Confessor. Read—

"Eadward the son of Æthelred had lived from his youth in exile at the court of Normandy. A halo of tenderness spread in after-time round this last King of the old English stock; legends told of his pious simplicity, his blitheness and gentleness of mood, the holiness that gained him his name of "Confessor," and enshrined him as a saint in his abbey-church at Westminster. Gleemen sang in manlier tones of the long peace and glories of his reign, how warriors and wise councillors stood round his throne, and Welsh and Scot and Briton obeyed him. His was the one figure that stood out bright against the darkness when England lay trodden under foot by Norman conquerors; and so dear became his memory that liberty and independence itself seemed incarnate in his name. Instead of freedom, the subject of William or Henry called for the "good laws of Eadward the Confessor." But it was as a mere shadow of the past that the exile really returned to the throne of Ælfred; there was something shadow-like in the thin form, the delicate complexion, the transparent womanly hands that contrasted with the blue eyes and golden hair of his race; and it is almost as a shadow that he glides over the political stage. The work of government was done by sterner hands. The King's weakness left Godwine master of the realm, and he ruled firmly and wisely"—*Green's History of the English People.*

14th.

15th.

16th.—Henry Martyn died 1812. Read—

"During his brief career he earned for himself a foremost place among modern missionaries; and the name of Henry Martyn will be held in honour as long as noble Christian heroism is admired among men."

Sing—"From Greenland's icy mountains," or—

"Thou whose almighty word
Chaos and darkness heard," etc.

17th.—Sir Philip Sidney died 1586. Read—

"Sidney, as he fought
And as he fell and as he lived and loved,
Sublimely mild, a Spirit without spot."—*Shelley.*

"He was a true model of worth; a man fit for conquest, plantation, reformation, or what action soever is greatest and hardest among men; withal such a lover of mankind and goodness, that whosoever had any real parts in him found comfort, participation and protection to the uttermost of his power. The universities abroad and at home accounted him a general Mæcenas of learning, dedicated their books to him, and communicated every invention or improvement of knowledge with him. Soldiers honoured him, and were so honoured by him, as no man thought he marched under the true banner of Mars, that had not obtained his approbation. Men of affairs in most parts of Christendom entertained correspondency with him. But what speak I of these? His heart and capacity were so large, that there was not a cunning painter, a skilful engineer, an excellent musician, or any other artificer of extraordinary fame, that made not himself known to this famous spirit, and found him his true friend without hire, and the common rendezvous of worth, in his time."—By "*a biographer who may be trusted,*" "*Fors Clavigera, xxxv.*"

18th.—St. Luke. Collect, Epistle, Gospel. See printed hymn.

19th.

20th.

21st.—St. Ursula. Add verse to hymn as above.

Praise we for noble Ursula, pure type of maiden grace;
"Learned and frank and fair" was she, "a fountain of sweet ways,"
But all her pilgrim-company were slain in Soldan's land,
And she was sent to Paradise by arrow from his hand.

And Samuel Taylor Coleridge born 1772. Read his poem—"Love, Hope, and Patience in Education."—

"O'er wayward childhood would'st thou hold firm rule,
And sun thee in the light of happy faces;
Love, Hope and Patience, these must be thy graces,
And in thine own heart let them first keep school.
For as old Atlas on his broad neck places
Heaven's starry globe, and there sustains it,—so
Do these upbear the little world below
Of Education,—Patience, Love, and Hope.
Methinks I see them grouped, in seemly show,
The straitened arms upraised, the palms aslope,
And robes that, touching as adown they flow,
Distinctly blend, like snow embossed in snow.
O part them never! If Hope prostrate lie,
Love too will sink and die.
But Love is subtle, and doth proof derive
From her own life that Hope is yet alive;
And bending o'er with soul-transfusing eyes,

And the soft murmurs of the mother dove,
Woos back the fleeting spirit, and half-supplies;—
Thus Love repays to Hope what Hope first gave to Love.
Yet haply there will come a weary day,
When overtasked at length
Both Love and Hope beneath the load give way.
Then with a statue's smile, a statue's strength,
Stands the mute sister, Patience, nothing loth,
And both supporting does the work of both."

22nd.

23rd.

24th.

25th.

26th.

27th.

28th.—St. Simon and St. Jude. Collect, Epistle and Gospel. See printed hymn.

29th.

30th.

31st.